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FOOD INFORMATION CALENDAR

OFFICE OF INFORMATION • UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

February 3, 1945 No. 96

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT. . . .On January 22 the President made the following statement concerning the importance of achieving the food goals which have been set for this year:

During the past three years every American who has played a part in the job of growing, conserving, harvesting, distributing and processing our food supply has done a magnificent job.

As we enter a new year, the demands for our food at home and abroad are so great that it is essential for every man and woman to do everything to help in the huge task of getting the food produced and seeing that it is conserved and shared. Many of our favorite foods are scarce.

To this end, I ask the people in cities, towns and villages to assist our farmers in every possible way to reach the food goals which have been set for this year.

I call upon the millions of victory gardeners who have done so much to swell the nation's food supply in these war years to continue their good work.

I ask those people who can spare the time to assist the nation's food processor in the task of preparing the food for our armed services, our civilians and our allies.

I ask the millions of women who have preserved food at home so that our armed services could have the fruits and vegetables they need, to carry on until the war is won.

I ask every American to share our available food by observing the rules of rationing and by cooperating with food merchants in the observance of food price ceilings.

I know I can count on the American people to respond to these calls to action, so that we can all truly continue to say when the war is won that our food has played an important role in the fight for freedom.

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NUTRITION ACTIVITY AND FOOD PRESERVATION. . . .Among the states reporting interesting developments in the nutrition program are Colorado and North Dakota. Colorado's State Nutrition Council is recommending that all county councils obtain the cooperation of school superintendents in making surveys of the nutrition habits of eighth grade pupils. From these data the nutrition council can tell the public the nutrition situation in their county and develop a program based upon needs. Fourteen counties are now conducting the study. . . .The State Nutrition Committee of North Dakota has prepared a list of suggestions on nutrition education in the elementary schools and a 6-page explanation of school lunch programs for the use of local

committees. The State Committee recently held its first district nutrition which proved helpful in showing the importance of county nutrition programs.

VICTORY GARDENS AND CANNING. . . .The urgent need for Victory Gardens and Home Preservation is re-emphasized by two new food orders which require canners to s aside for war use 61 per cent of the 1945-46 pack of 13 major fruits and juices (excluding citrus) and 48 per cent of the year's pack of 15 major vegetables and juices.

For the principal canned fruits, production is expected to decline a little more than the slight drop in war requirements, thus leaving less for civilians--about 22,700,000 cases from the 1945-46 pack compared with 23,800,000 cases from last year's pack.

For the principal vegetables, war requirements have continued their advance from 25 per cent of the pack in 1943-44 to 41 per cent in 1944-45 and now to 48 per dent in 1945-46. With an expected increase in production, civilians may get about the same amount of the 15 major canned vegetables, but less of all vegetables--perhaps 171,000,000 cases from the 1945-46 pack compared with 187,000,000 cases from the 1944-45 pack.

(For further details see USDA Release 182-45, January 29, 1945).

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CONSUMER TIME LISTENERS on Februay 10 will hear how Government-purchased food stocks are released to consumers. In an effort to prevent food surpluses from developing, War Food Administration is systematically releasing part of its food stocks which are not immediately needed for Lend-Lease and other war uses. A copy of the February issue of Consumers' Guide magazine, containing an informative article on Government-purchased foods, will be offered to listeners. On February 17, an informative story on flavoring will be dramatized on the Consumer Time program, telling how flavorings are produced, how wartime demands are affecting supply, why there is a shortage on some of them, etc.

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OPA EXEMPTS 4-H CATTLE FROM CEILING. . . .Cattle or calves for breeding or dairy purposes and those sold by members of recognized farm youth organizations--such as 4-H Clubs--at sales approved by OPA, are exempt from the"overriding ceiling." In addition, slaughterers who are required to show compliance on their drove costs may omit 4-H and other "club" cattle, purchased at sales approved by OPA, from their drove cost calculations. These provisions of the Cattle Stabilization plan were recently announced in OPA press releases Nos. 5242 and 5264.

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OPA AND THE AMERICAN FARMER. . . .A recent OPA pamphlet shows the extent of OPA responsibility in wartime programs affecting the American farmer. Its purpose is to provide Regional Agricultural Relations Advisers, and through them, the farmers, with a clearer understanding of OPA's responsibility. The scope of the subject matter is indicated by these headings: Ceiling Prices, Support Prices, Subsidies, Farm Labor, Services Affecting Farmers, Commodities not under Price Control, and Rationing. Copies of this Q. and A. piece can be obtained from the nearest Regional OPA Agricultural Relations Adviser.

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1945 FARM LABOR NEEDS. . . .About 10 days ago a fact sheet on farm labor was issued. Since that time a more complete statement of this program has been prepared entitled "1945 Farm Labor Needs," which can be obtained from the Office of Information. A map for each month of 1945 showing the critical and the serious areas in which

mobilization of seasonal farm workers is required is a special feature of this booklet.

AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATION. . . .January 29, the Senate passed a bill to protect AAA' cotton and wheat allotments of farmers who shift to war crops or who are serving in the armed forces; the House and the Senate agreed to resolutions continuing their committees on post-war economic policy and planning. February 1, the Senate Banking and Currency Committee reported a bill to continue the Commodity Credit Corporation and increase its borrowing power; the House passed the May manpower bill which provides for war mobilization of civilian workers but does not affect the Tydings farm-labor amendment.

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BEFORE AND AFTER is the title of a new one-act play about the community lunch program. It dramatizes the problems of the children in getting adequate mid-day meals at school and those of the parents in providing them--before the school lunch program comes to the community. The benefits of the program are then shown in better fed children and satisfied parents--after the children get nourishing hot lunches at school. The play can be staged very easily as few properties are needed, not even a stage. Children can be used for the adult parts as well as for their own. Copies of this play can be secured from War Food Administration, Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

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USDA RELEASES OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE. . . .Price support program for 1944 pack of canned vegetables--173; Russia gets 20,000 tons of U. S. seeds--176; P. V. Cardon to succeed E. C. Auchter as Administrator of ARA--179; Set-aside for 1945 on canned fruits and vegetables--182; WFA to set per cent of livestock slaughter covered by subsidy--188; 1945 Federal cotton crop insurance program--193; Lee Marshall resigns, new WFA directors named--194; Forest Service celebrates fortieth anniversay--203; Sample cotton for sale by WFA--207.

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OTHER RELEASES OF AGRICULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE. . . .Formal action is taken on Florida citrus fruit prices--OPA-5219; Announcement of processors' ceiling prices for 1945 pack of grapefruit segments--OPA-5231; Reserves of rationed foods for hospitals--OPA-5238; Cattle price stabilization directive put into effect--OPA-5242; Adjustments made on prices of certain legume and grass seeds--OPA-T-2944; Shipping point ceilings for 1945 crop of dry onions same as 1944--OPA-5244; Maximum retail prices established for a new Canadian grade of ammonium nitrate--OPA-5243; Changes made in the wool pricing schedule--OPA-T-2946.

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